369 At night in Sart Tashkent, as in all other towns of Turkestan in-
625 habited by natives, all social intercourse is at a standstill. The secret
361 police which is also retained under Russian rule for the native towns, has hit upon the practical arrangement of regarding as an evildoer and taking into custody everyone, without regard to person, who is found on
[365] the street after dark. This measure has in addition the important advantage of making any outlay of money for street lighting superfluous. Nocturnal peace is, however, in no way essentially furthered by this. For the numerous nightwatchmen produce such a terrible racket and uproar with their drumming and clappers, which they are officially required to use constantly as a proof of conscientious execution of duty, in combination with the uninterrupted yelping of countless stray dogs, which alone populate the streets at night waging pitched battles with each other, that a newcomer is unable for nights on end to get a wink of sleep, especially during warm weather when one is forced by the great heat to sleep outdoors or at least by an open window.

4. The Population of Sart Tashkent.

161 In spite of the considerable expanse of the town, which, including the gardens, has as great an area as Paris, the population figure for Sart Tashkent is only about 125,000. It is impossible to give a more accurate figure, for to penetrate into the families for the purpose of a regular census is rendered impossible by the Mohammedan prejudices of the inhabitants. The Russian administration has had to limit itself to establishing the number of courts which are permanently occupied by a family, and which are taken as the basic unit in the allotment of taxes. For each family, one usually reckons five individuals, which should be fairly close to the truth. /173/ /Figure 62, p. 20a. Caption: A view of Kuldja (from a photography by G. Merzbacher)./

162 /174/ Tashkent has the most mixed population of all the towns in Turkestan, which is only to be expected, considering the position of the town and its history, for all the Mongol tribal groups pouring out of Dzungaria into Turkestan had to go through the region of Tashkent in the course of time, and could press forward only by conquering this powerful town. As a result, Tashkent's original Indo-European inhabitants have been perpetually mixed with the people deposited by all the later migrations, and consequently one encounters all possible types among the people of Tashkent.